The dCacheBillingAggregator

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Overview

The dCache file system manages storage for many OSG SEs, including CMS and Atlas tier 1 & 2 sites.

dCache records various interesting transfer statistics in its billing database that are of interest to OSG.

- Write a dCache billing aggregator to run at each dCache site.
 - Read new entries from the dCache billing data base.
 - Send relevant statistics to a central site for analysis and display.

Gratia summarizes and displays the accounting data.

- Original scope: write a standalone aggregator, analysis and display system.
- Revised scope: write a dCache billing data probe for the Gratia system

Work done with the dCache and Gratia teams, and Abhishek Singh Rana (UCSD).





Why?

Track dCache grid resource usage.

Predicting future resource needs.

Detecting abnormal traffic patterns.

- ► System faults
- ► Security violations





How it works

The aggregator is a daemon written in python.

- Different use case for the Gratia probe library.

Typically runs on dCache DB host.

- Accesses the dCache DB using SQLAlchemy and psycopg2.

The steps are:

- Check billinginfo and doorinfo tables of dCache Billing DB for new entries.
- Package them and send them to Gratía.
- -Pause T seconds, then repeat.





Status

Prototype active at UCSD since Jan 07.

Performance is adequate, thus far.

Found some bugs.

- e.g., GridFTP reads did not record an initiator in the database.

Incorporated into VDT dCache distribution.

- Awaiting deployment of some patches to dCache and Gratia.





Future Work

Web interface to statistics.

- Negotiating responsibility.

Add any additional statistics requested.

Ensure aggregator performance is adequate for high-traffic sites.

Further code review of dCache components?



